

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
25 April, 1978

AM

10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. Dates of next meetings: 23 May, 1978
27 June, 1978
- B. Minutes of April 4, 1978 meeting.
- C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, Western Sector Development - Report.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

- A. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration
Dulles Airport Expansion.
- B. Smithsonian Institution
 - 1. Renwick Gates and Fence.
 - 2. East Garden and Mini Garden.
- C. D.C. Department of Economic Development
Old Georgetown Act
 - 1. OG 78-71, 1855 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., New Safeway Store Replacement.
 - 2. OG 78-83, 3225 Grace Street, N.W., Renovation of Existing Building, "Georgetown Park" Development - Resubmission.
 - 3. OG 78-84, 3301 M Street, N.W., New Townhouses above Commercial Space - Resubmission.
 - 4. OG 78-82, 3285 M Street, N.W., Townhouse Development above Retail and Parking Garage Platform - Resubmission.
 - 5. OG 78-85, 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Rear Masonry Commercial and Office Addition.
 - 6. Appendix 1.

25 April, 1978

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 78-42, 501 13th Street, N.W., Installation of Canopy.

2. Appendix 2.

C. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development
Historic Subdivisions

Appendix 3.

25 April, 1978

PROJECTNO. ADDRESS AND OWNER

OG 78-

72 1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Joseph Marsh

Townhouse group over office and retail space and garage (resubmission refer to OG 78-67).

ACTION: Do not issue permit until working drawings have been submitted and approved, brick samples have been erected on site and approved, and project has been determined by D.C. Zoning Office to conform to existing zoning requirements. 4/14/78

73 1063 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Georgetown Restaurant Corporation

Alteration to south facade windows of existing commercial structure - working drawings (resubmission refer to OG 78-33).

ACTION: Issue permit. 4/5/78

74 3251 Prospect Street, N.W.

Phenix Georgetown, Inc.

Replace and install two signs.

ACTION: Issue permit. 4/5/78

75 3324 Dent Place, N.W.

Theresa Rose Rice, executrix

Raze existing house including foundations and footings; raze two sheds and fence (resubmission refer to OG 78-48).

ACTION: Do not issue permit. See attached letter. 4/14/78

76 1524 29th Street, N.W.

John A. Prince

Construct brick driveway.

ACTION: Issue permit. 4/5/78

77 3101 P Street, N.W.

Don Dailey

Make new exterior masonry openings, enlarge areaway, install new stair, reframe part of roof and two floors, repair failure in existing masonry wall, install four new skylights, replace existing windows (resubmission refer to OG 78-69).

ACTION: No objection to preliminary scheme. Submit working drawings for CFA review prior to issuance of permit. 4/5/78

78 1512 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

William V. Hays

Install two signs and awning.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend entrance canopy be omitted, and that a single smaller sign be substituted for existing sign. Request revised designs, plus color samples if the building is to be painted. Sign may be a double-faced projecting sign. 4/5/78

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

25 April, 1978

PROJECT

ADDRESS AND OWNER

OG 78-

79 1346 29th Street, N.W.
John F. Armentrout, Jr.

Install new sash, shutters, entrance; patch brickwork.

ACTION: Issue permit. 4/20/78

80 3420 N Street, N.W.
Jerzy Sapieyevski et al.

Raze one-car garage; construct new accessory building.

ACTION: Issue permit for razing. No objection to design of new structure provided asphalt roofing is not used; suggest standing seam metal roof. Submit brick sample. 4/20/78

81 1015 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
James M. & Daniel T. Donohoe

New plate glass window, 14' x 4'5".

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Proposed window is out of character with existing structure. 4/20/78

86 3307 M Street, N.W.
Pier One Imports

One double-faced vertical display, 2' x 15'; one single-faced set of 20" to 40" letters on raceway. Both to be internally illuminated with plexiglass faces.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Design not recommended; size not recommended; proposals do not conform to code requirements for Old Georgetown area signs. 4/20/78

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

25 April, 1978

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
SL 78- 39	473 H Street, N.W. K. Lowinger, R. O. Ross	Construct 7'0" high wood fence in rear of property.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/6/78	
41	1837 Ingleside Terrace, N.W. Joseph Keyerleber	Renovation of exterior rear elevation; air conditioner and skylight on roof.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/5/78	

PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

Federal Home Loan Bank Board Graphics

Troy Kelly
Vlastimil Koubek

J. Edgar Hoover Building Sculpture

Dale Thompson

3324 Dent Place, N.W.

Susan Notkins
W. H. Alexander

1063 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

E. T. Simpson
Leroy F. Owens
G. Lawson
J. Olson

1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Alan Lockman
Martin Schwartz

Historic Subdivision No. 78

A. L. Wheeler

Albert Einstein Statue

James Van Sweden
Robert Berks
David Schaff
Dr. Philip Handler

Temporary Sculpture Exhibit

Joseph Ronsisvalle
Mary Anne Goley
James Van Sweden

"Centerbeam"

Joseph Ronsisvalle
Otto Piene

Old Georgetown Board

Anne Vytlačil
Wynant Vanderpool

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
25 April, 1978

The meeting convened at the offices of the Commission of Fine Arts at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Philip W. Buchen
 Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
 Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
 Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Staff Present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Ms. Virginia C. Boutin
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
 Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
 Ms. Nancy H. Noyes

National Capital Planning
Commission Staff Present: Mr. Robert Gresham

D.C. Municipal Planning
Office Staff Present: Mr. Alberto Bastida

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of the next meetings were set at May 23 and June 27, 1978.

B. Minutes of the April 4, 1978 meeting were approved.

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation, Western Sector Development - Report. Mr. Leland Allen of the PADC staff told the members that the Corporation expected to have proposed designs before the Commission at its next meeting. He also indicated that a number of other Corporation projects were moving along rapidly and that the Pennsylvania Avenue sidewalk paving prototype next to the National Gallery of Art East Building would be ready for inspection in a month.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration

Dulles Airport Expansion. The Secretary presented some drawings and a model of an extension on the rear of the noted Saarinen-designed main terminal building. An additional fifty feet would pro-

vide for waiting and security space required by changing use patterns and peak load demands. There would be no substantial change to the main building as part of this proposal, but future proposals would involve the lengthening of the main structure as originally intended by the architect.

The Secretary introduced Mr. James Murphy, Director of Washington Airports. Mr. Murphy described the functional and long-range planning aspects of the proposal, indicating that the FAA would be coming to the Commission of Fine Arts with all future modifications. Mr. Andras Nagy, an architect with HOK, the addition designers, then discussed the design, including the skylights and their relationship to the main columns penetrating the new waiting spaces. Mr. Nichols asked if the glazing around the columns was complete to allow a full visual penetration; Mr. Nagy indicated that was the case. The Commission also discussed the exterior finishes of the end walls of the extension. The sandblasted concrete matching existing walls was approved for the lower level of the extension, while charcoal grey metal panels were approved for the main concourse level. If there were to be any glazing, it would be held to a minimum, no more than the small window opening indicated on the architects drawings presented at the meeting. The Chairman reported the Commission's unanimous approval.

EXHIBIT A

B. Smithsonian Institution

1. Renwick Gates and Fence for Victorian Garden, Independence Avenue side of Castle Building. The Secretary presented drawings and photographs of a proposal to build an iron and stone gate similar to one recommended for the site by Renwick when he designed the Smithsonian Castle Building. An 1849 sketch showed the proposed design, which blended architecturally with the Castle. The new proposal had been detailed by the Smithsonian staff. Mr. Phillip Reiss, Director of Engineering for the Smithsonian, discussed the details. Mr. Nichols recommended that cast rather than wrought iron be used in the fabrication. The Commission gave their unanimous approval of the project.

EXHIBIT B

2. East Garden and Mini Garden. The Secretary presented drawings and photographs of the proposal to carry the Victorian theme of the Victorian Garden around the Arts and Industries Building. This would involve new brick walks and landscaping between the Arts and Industries Building, the east end of the Castle, and the Hirshhorn Gallery. The architect, Hugh Newell Jacobsen, presented his concept of a curvilinear scheme with well-detailed brick walks and small landscaping areas. He showed how the scheme continued the Mall axes and blended in with existing details in the vicinity. The garden area between the Arts and Industries Building and the Hirshhorn Gallery would contain special provisions for the enjoyment of the visually

handicapped. This area would be screened from the Arts and Industries Building service area by a lattice fence. The Commission examined the drawings and unanimously approved the design. EXHIBIT B

C. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 78-71, 1855 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., New Safeway Store Replacement, at rear of present site. The Assistant Secretary told of the long history of community, company, and District Government involvement in the location and siting of the proposed store. He indicated that the present Safeway store was located on Wisconsin Avenue at the front of the site, would be razed, and was of no note architecturally or historically. He also indicated that the site and general configuration had been recommended by the District Government and an arrangement and park easement in the rear had been worked out between Safeway and the National Park Service. The Georgetown Board had reviewed the design approved for planning purposes by the Zoning Commission and had recommended some additional design study prior to full presentation before the Commission of Fine Arts. The applicant and the Georgetown Board had studied a number of alternatives, and had come to the conclusion that a facade with a series of brick arches would be most suitable. This had been combined with a landscaped parking lot and a central pedestrian spine going from a bus shelter at Wisconsin Avenue back to the entrance of the store. Lighting had been coordinated with the Naval Observatory to avoid disruption of that operation.

Mr. Arthur Hanson represented the Safeway Company and indicated that the company had tried very hard to provide a design that would be suitable to the location within a historic district while providing a unique and successful facility. He showed that the signs had been minimized by location and size and that all suggestions of the Georgetown Board and Zoning Commission had been incorporated into the design. Mr. Paul Salditt, the architect, generally described the design and answered several questions about the Wisconsin Avenue screen wall and planting. The Commission unanimously approved the preliminary design, with the Chairman indicating that design development, landscape, and material details would be reviewed as ready, and urging that the plane of the edge of Wisconsin Avenue be maintained with sufficient screening of the parking lot.

2. OG 78-83, 3225 Grace Street, N.W., Renovation of Existing Building, "Georgetown Park" Development - Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings showing new openings and repairs to this large-scale existing industrial building. The drawings conformed to those previously approved preliminarily by the Georgetown Board. He indicated that the project included buildings on both sides of the Canal, but that the present proposal was for one structure alone. The Board

indicated their concurrence with the design development. Mr. Lockman, the architect, said that details for the connecting bridges and the landscaped park at the east end of the structure were being worked out with the National Park Service. The Commission examined the materials and unanimously approved the project subject to future details as ready.

3. OG 78-84, 3301 M Street, N.W., New Townhouses above Commercial Space - Resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented a model and drawings of this proposed mixed-use structure well below the allowable height limit and flanking an unused auto showroom with similar cornice height. The Commission had previously reviewed the design preliminarily and approved it. The Georgetown Board had reviewed and approved the design development drawings. The architect, Mr. Lockman, indicated that the design was basically the same as that previously approved the the Commission with a slight increase in height over the utility areas in the center of the project. The Assistant Secretary pointed out that the cooling equipment was located within the roof enclosures and was visually screened. The height was about 35 feet in a 60-foot zone. Mr. Thomas Parrott, representing the ANC and the Citizens Association, indicated support for the project and pleasure with its modest size. The Commission unanimously approved the project.

4. OG 78-82, 3285 M Street, N.W., Townhouses above Retail with Parking Garage. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model of this project after showing slides of the site and adjacent area. He indicated that the project was in a 60-foot zone and included the major part of the block in between a number of small townhouses. Underground parking topped by commercial-retail and a plaza with four-story townhouses on the very top completed the project. The Georgetown Board had reviewed the project twice. The first time they indicated their concern over potential overdevelopment and the need for harmonizing with adjacent residential buildings. The architect, Mr. Gitlin, and the developer, Mr. Wolpe, had offered to return to the Board with a model showing the adjacent development. When they had done so the Board found the model confirmed their earlier fears about the overdevelopment of the block. The Board had recommended that the Commission not approve the project. The Assistant Secretary paraphrased the Board reaction and Mr. Wright and Ms. Vytlačil concurred: "Character, scale, and massing of the proposed project are inharmonious with the two- and three-floor street front fow buildings on the adjacent block. If the project is restudied, recommend two- or three-floor development along M Street and Potomac Street, in the facade line of the existing buildings. Specifically recommend against the outdoor split-foyer shopping center effect on M Street. Suggest conventional walk-in single-level store-front. Specifically recommend against large garage openings on Potomac Street between Federal houses as shown in submission. Locating townhouses on plazas higher in elevation than the roofs of adjacent houses is not consistent with the character of Georgetown and not in the best

public interest. Restudy with lower overall profile to blend better with adjacent construction."

The Assistant Secretary said that there was intense neighborhood interest in the project and particularly in diminishing its height and impact. The project sponsors had prepared new drawings and a revised scheme since discussions with either the Board or the community. Mr. Gitlin, the architect, then presented his revised drawings with his developer, Mr. Wolpe, participating in a general discussion. The Commission examined the drawings and asked a number of general questions regarding orientation and height. Mr. Gitlin said that they were interested in knowing whether they were moving in the right direction or not. The Chairman indicated that there were a number of interested parties in the room who would like to be heard.

Mr. Thomas Parrott expressed concern over the size and impact of the project on behalf of the ANC and the Georgetown Citizens Association. Mr. Richard Malesardi, a neighbor and architect, hoped that the size could be scaled down, and stated his pleasure with the concept of mixed-use and residential development facing Prospect and Potomac Streets. A number of other neighbors spoke in opposition to the design as represented in the model and indicated their hope for a more residential scale on the side and rear of the project. The Chairman indicated his reservations about interrupting the facade line along Prospect Street with an entrance area setback, and the Commission's unanimous disapproval of the project as presented and its hopes that the points raised by the community and the Georgetown Board could be incorporated into the project in further study. Messers Gitlin and Wolpe agreed to continue studies in this direction.

5. OG 78-85, 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Rear Masonry Commercial and Office Addition. The Secretary presented slides, photographs, drawings, and a model of the proposal to build a small office building in the major part of the rear garden space of a particularly fine federal row building facing Wisconsin Avenue. The land-locked site would not be visible from public space except over nearby buildings from the vicinity of Wisconsin Avenue and Q Streets. The Commission had reviewed a proposal to assemble the site now shown as the plan and rejected it on April 4, 1978. The applicant, Mr. A. L. Wheeler, had submitted the design on the assumption that the subdivision would be granted. Both the Georgetown Board and the Commission had been against the subdivision, or assembly, on the basis that it permitted a larger building in a spot that should probably not have any major new construction, because of the adverse impact on the adjacent garden spaces. In the action on that subdivision the Commission had pointed out that the building was an individually designated landmark, had been published as a fine example of federal architecture by the Commission, and was recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey. Not only was there danger of impact to the community through overcrowding, but there was

danger of detracting from the environment and setting of the building.

The Board had reviewed the preliminary design and voiced concern over the structure as it would impact the adjacent gardens and as it would be visible above the historic building from Wisconsin Avenue and Q Street. A number of concerned citizens had voiced opposition to the proposal at the Georgetown Board's meeting and were present at the Commission meeting.

Mr. Wheeler and his architect, Andrew Bryant, were present with new drawings showing a building diminished in height, although still visible from both Wisconsin Avenue and Q Street, and asked for the Commission's indication that this would be an acceptable scheme to pursue. The Chairman reminded the members of their action on the subdivision request and the Board's suggestion that no new construction be allowed on the garden site. Mr. Wheeler said that he had paid a great deal of money for the property and had rights under the existing zoning to use it, and was simply trying to find the most acceptable solution. The Chairman expressed sympathy with the problem and called on the various interested parties in the room to make comments. Messers Thomas Parrott and Donald Shannon of the ANC first opposed any such construction on the site. Mrs. Jean Lynch and Mr. Bogdan Bosbrich, the adjacent owners, were present to oppose the development. There were a number of petitions for and against the project, which Mr. Wheeler suggested were irrelevant since what could be built was between himself and the government.

After some general discussion, the Chairman asked Mr. Wheeler if he had any intention of presenting the Commission with a larger model showing the proposal in context with the rest of the block. Mr. Wheeler indicated that he was reluctant to undertake such an expense for such a small building. Ms. Vytlačil of the Georgetown Board said that she was very much in favor of such a model if the proposal were to be given any further consideration. The Commission unanimously recommended against issuance of this building permit and requested a larger model.

6. Appendix 1, approved.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 78-42, 501 13th Street, N.W., Installation of Canopy. The Secretary told the Commission that the proposal involved removal of graphics advertising the "American Adventure Theater" on the ground floor of the Warner Theater Building at the corner of 13th and E Streets, N.W. He said that the use had been oriented to the Bicentennial and was now being replaced with a new use. The Adventure Theater had removed some non-original pink marble from the facade on this corner and replaced it with white stucco and bright blue lettering. The present proposal was for the removal of the bright and oversized graphics and

25 April, 1978

painting the stucco a neutral color. Stainless steel canopies would be added over two side doors. The Commission examined the drawings and photographs and unanimously approved the proposal.

2. Appendix 2, approved.

D. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development
Historic Subdivisions

Appendix 3, approved.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Charles H. Atherton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

5 May, 1978

Dear Mr. Bond:

I am happy to report that at our meeting on April 25, 1978, the Commission of Fine Arts considered the designs for the Dulles Airport terminal expansion and unanimously approved them. We feel that the architects have shown a great deal of care in respecting the integrity of the original building and are to be commended.

We particularly applaud the manner in which the structural pylons were handled where the extension joins with the existing building. This was a potentially awkward problem. However, the introduction of skylights in the roof of the new passenger area should accommodate the problem very well. In addition they add a great deal of visual interest to the space and help offset the relatively low ceiling height.

On the ends of the extension it is our understanding that the walls are to be metal panels at the upper level, supported on a masonry base to match the adjoining concrete. There is much to be said for this scheme, especially if the panels are of the same charcoal grey finish used elsewhere in the building. The end walls should not be glazed, in our opinion, except possibly for a small opening such as was indicated on the drawings that were presented.

We appreciate your decision to submit this project for our comment, and in addition are glad to hear that the master planning and other future changes to the terminal complex will also be submitted to the Commission for review. We look forward to working with the FAA on these projects.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Langhorne M. Bond
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
Washington, D.C. 20590

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FREDERICK D. NICHOLS

VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY

KEVIN ROCHE

ELI S. JACOBS

EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-366-1066

5 May, 1978

Dear Mr. Reiss:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 25, 1978, approved preliminary plans for the new landscaping between the east entrance of the Castle and the entrance to the Arts and Industries Building and for the so-called Mini Garden to be located south of Jefferson Drive between the Arts and Industries Building and the Hirshhorn Gallery. Also approved were designs for the "Renwick" gates and fence to be erected on Independence Avenue on axis with 10th Street. The Commission took this action with the understanding that the gate posts will be constructed of red sandstone to match the old Castle as closely as possible.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Phillip K. Reiss
Director, Office of Facilities
Planning and Engineering Services
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

6 April, 1988

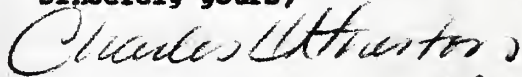
Dear Lee,

The Commission will be glad to consider the Western Sector Concept Plans at its meeting on April 25, 1978. It will be the first item on the agenda, which would mean your presentation would be scheduled for 10:00 a.m.

We would appreciate having the material no later than noon on the day before.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Leland Allen
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
Suite 1148, 425 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

